

NSC BRIEFING

14
DOCUMENT NO. _____
NO CHANGE IN CLASS. ☐
☒DECLASSIFIED
CLASS. CHANGED TO: TS S C
NEXT REVIEW DATE: _____
AUTH: IS 10-2
DATE 1-31-80 REVIEWER: 032014
~~SOUTHERN AFRICA.~~

19 October 1960

- I. White dominated areas of Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland and the Union of South Africa are experiencing growing conflict between white and African nationalism. This reflected in racial violence.
- II. Federation, dominated by local whites but under final authority of London, entering crucial period.
 - A. Monckton commission, which studied federal political structure, reported its finding on 11 October. Its recommendations, which were along pro-African lines, to be subject of conference in London probably beginning in late December which will determine Rhodesia's political future.
 1. Both whites and Africans have announced opposition to report's recommendations.
 2. White Rhodesian leaders strongly opposed to possible secession of Nyasaland and Northern Rhodesia from federation.
 - a. Prime Minister Welensky immediately declared his intent to resist its recommendations, calling secession clause "death knell" of the Federation.
 - b. However, many of 225,000 whites in Southern Rhodesia may favor that colony's secession if Britain pushes early African control of Nyasaland and Northern Rhodesia.
 - c. Africans opposed to any retention of federation; want its immediate breakup and the eventual creation of three independent states (Northern and Southern Rhodesia and

~~SECRET~~

Approved For Release 2000/08/29 : CIA-RDP79R00890A001300010022-8

III. Immediate security problem posed by growing political force of Africans who are staging increasingly violent anti-white disorders at several points.

- A. In Northern Rhodesia Africans caused disorders in May in the copper-belt, and racial tension now being stirred up by Congo developments.
- B. Urban racial tension and growing African nationalism in Southern Rhodesia indicated by series of riots since July starting from trivial causes but resulting in deaths, widespread property damage and challenge to Rhodesian police and army authority.

- 1. Government determined to stamp out African unrest with force; has called up 1,600 white reservists, plans to call up 1,600 more late this month and station them in African townships. Wider police powers being enacted this week.
- 2. In July riots, first African death in Southern Rhodesia from racial violence since 1890's. Disorders in Salisbury 8 October were worst yet (7 dead, 80 injured).

25X1X6

- 3. [REDACTED] told US official 9 October if there is more trouble, police and federal troops "will teach Africans a lesson they won't forget for years and years. There will be so many corpses out there you won't be able to count."

- C. There is real danger white vigilantes may take matters into own hands and provoke strong retaliation by Africans.

IV. In South Africa, although Africans have been relatively quiet since massive riots of last March and April, (67 Africans killed in one riot) tension appears to be growing.

Approved For Release 2000/08/29 : CIA-RDP79R00890A001300010022-8

~~SECRET~~

~~SECRET~~

Approved For Release 2000/08/29 : CIA-RDP79R00890A001300010022-8

- A. Sporadic outbreaks have occurred in African reserves in rural Transkei; agitators--reportedly including a few Communists--are attempting to foment more trouble.
- B. African nationalist organizations with leaders in jail or under government restriction reportedly are coming under the control of anti-white extremists, also with some Communist influence.

V.. Tension among whites in South Africa high as result of 5 October referendum on establishment of a republic.

- A. Pro-republic Nationalist party of Prime Minister Verwoerd won by narrow margin of 74,000 votes in total of over 1,600,000; Verwoerd plans to proclaim republic next May.
- B. English-speaking South Africans bitterly opposed to republic, which has long been a goal of country's politically dominant Afrikaners.
 - 1. Some talk of secession in English stronghold of Natal province although this would be opposed by both English and Afrikaners in rest of country.
 - 2. Bitterness likely to increase if Commonwealth rejects South Africa's application for continued membership as a republic.

Approved For Release 2000/08/29 : CIA-RDP79R00890A001300010022-8

~~SECRET~~